

## LIB

Before they did oppress the people, only by colour of a *lewd* custom, they did afterwards use the same oppressions by warrant. *Davies on Ireland.*

3. Luffful; libidinous.

He is not lolling on a *lewd* love bed,

But on his knees at meditation. *Shakespeare's Rich. III.*

Then *lewd* Anchemolus he laid in dust,

Who stain'd his stepdam's bed with impious lust. *Dryden.*

LE'WDLY. *adj.* [from *lewd*.]

1. Wickedly; naughtily.

A sort of naughty persons, *lewdly* bent,

Have practis'd dangerously against your state. *Shakespeare.*

2. Libidinally; lustfully.

He lov'd fair lady Elfred, *lewdly* lov'd,

Whose wanton pleasures him too much did please,

'That quite his heart from Guendeline remov'd. *Spenser.*

So *lewdly* dull his idle works appear,

The wretched texts deserve no comments here. *Dryden.*

LE'WDNESS. *n. f.* [from *lewd*.] Lustful licentiousness.

Suffer no *lewdness*, nor indecent speech,

Th' apartment of the tender youth to reach. *Dryd. Juu.*

Damianus's letter to Nicholas is an authentick record of the *lewdness* committed under the reign of celibacy. *Atterbury.*

LE'WDSTER. *n. f.* [from *lewd*.] A lecher; one given to criminal pleasures.

Against such *lewdsters*, and their lechery,

Those that betray them do no treachery. *Shakespeare.*

LE'WTS D'OR. *n. f.* [French.] A golden French coin, in value twelve livres, now settled at seventeen shillings. *Dict.*

LEXICOGRAPHY. *n. f.* [αλεξων and γραφω; *lexicographie*, French.] A writer of dictionaries; a harmless drudge, that busies himself in tracing the original, and detailing the signification of words.

Commentators and *lexicographers* acquainted with the Syriac language, have given their hints in their writings on scripture. *Watts's Improvement of the Mind.*

LEXICOGRAPHY. *n. f.* [αλεξων and γραφω.] The art or practice of writing dictionaries.

LEXICON. *n. f.* [αλεξων.] A dictionary; a book teaching the signification of words.

Though a linguist should pride himself to have all the tongues that Babel cleft the world into, yet if he had not studied the solid things in them as well as the words and *lexicons*, yet he were nothing so much to be esteemed a learned man as any yeoman competently wife in his mother dialect only. *Milton.*

LEY. *n. f.*

Ley, lee, lay, are all from the Saxon leag, a field or pasture, by the usual melting of the letter x or g. *Gilpin's Cam.*

LI'ABLE. *n. f.* [liable, from *liar*, old French.] Obnoxious; not exempt; subject.

But what is strength without a double share

Of wisdom? vast, unwieldy, burthenome,

Proudly secure, yet liable to fall

By weakest subtleties. *Milton's Agonistes.*

The English boast of Spenser and Milton, who neither of them wanted genius or learning; and yet both of them are liable to many censures. *Dryden's Juvenal.*

This, or any other scheme, coming from a private hand, might be liable to many defects. *Swift.*

LIAR. *n. f.* [from *lie*.] This word would analogically be *liar*; but this orthography has prevailed, and the convenience of distinction from *liar*, he who lies down, is sufficient to confirm it. One who tells falsehood; one who wants veracity.

She's like a *liar*, gone to burning hell!

'Twas I that kill'd her. *Shakespeare's Othello.*

He approves the common *liar*, fame,

Who speaks him thus at Rome. *Shakespeare's Ant. and Cleop.*

I do not reject his observation as untrue, much less condemn the person himself as a *liar*, whensoever it seems to be contradicted. *Boyle.*

Thy better soul abhors a *liar's* part,

Wife is thy voice, and noble is thy heart. *Pope's Odyssey.*

LI'ARD. *adj.*

1. Mingled roan.

2. *Liard* in Scotland denotes gray-haired; as, he's a *liard* old man.

LIBA'TION. *n. f.* [libatio, Latin.]

1. The act of pouring wine on the ground in honour of some deity.

In digging new earth pour in some wine, that the vapour of the earth and wine may comfort the spirits, provided it be not taken for a heathen sacrifice, or libation to the earth. *Bacon's Natural History.*

2. The wine so poured.

They had no other crime to object against the Christians, but that they did not offer up libations, and the smoke of sacrifices, to dead men.

The goblet then she took, with nectar crown'd,

Sprinkling the first libations on the ground. *Dryden's Æn.*

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LI'BEARD. *n. f.* [libard, German; leopardus, Lat.] A leopard.

Make the *libard* stern,

Leave roaring, when in rage he for revenge did yearn. *Spenser's Fairy Queen, l. i.*

The *libard*, and the tiger, as the mole

Rising, the crumbled earth above them threw. *Milton.*

The torrid parts of Africk are by Pilo resembled to a *libard's* skin, the distance of whose spots represent the dif-

ferences of habitations, or towns of Africk. *Brerewood.*

LI'BEL. *n. f.* [libellus, Latin; libelle, French.]

1. A satire; defamatory writing; a lampoon.

Are we reproached for the name of Christ? that ignominy

erves but to advance our future glory; every such *libel* here

becomes panegyric there. *Decay of Piety.*

Good heav'n! that fots and knaves should be so vain,

To wish their vile resemblance may remain!

And stand recorded, at their own request,

To future days, a *libel* or a jest. *Dryden.*

2. [In the civil law.] A declaration or charge in writing against a person in court.

To LI'BEL. *v. n.* [from the noun.] To spread defamation; generally written or printed.

Sweet scrawls to fly about the streets of Rome:

What's this but *libelling* against the senate? *Shakespeare.*

He, like a privileged spy, whom nothing can

Discredit, *libels* now 'gainst each great man. *Dante.*

To LI'BEL. *v. a.* To satirize; to lampoon;

Is then the peevish of England any thing dishonoured

when a peer suffers for his treason? if he be *libelled*, or any

way defamed, he has his scandalum magnatum to punish the offender. *Dryden.*

But what so pure which envious tongues will spare?

Some wicked wits have *libelled* all the fair. *Pope.*

LI'BELLER. *n. f.* [from *libel*.] A defamer by writing; a lampooner.

Our common *libellers* are as free from the imputation of wit, as of morality. *Dryden's Juvenal.*

The squibs are those who, in the common phrase, are called *libellers* and lampooners.

The common *libellers*, in their invectives, tax the church with an insatiable desire of power and wealth, equally common to all bodies of men. *Swift.*

LI'BELOUS. *n. f.* [from *libel*.] Defamatory.

It was the most malicious surmise that had ever been brewed, howsoever countenanced by a *libellous* pamphlet. *Wotton.*

LI'BERAL. *adj.* [liberalis, Latin; liberal, French.]

1. Not mean; not low in birth; not low in mind.

2. Becoming a gentleman.

3. Munificent; generous; bountiful; not parcimonious.

Her name was Mercy, well known over all

To be both gracious and eke liberal. *Spenser's Fa. Queen.*

Sparing would shew a worse sin than ill doctrine.

Men of his way should be most liberal,

They're set here for examples. *Shakespeare's Henry VIII.*

Needs must the pow'r

That made us, and for us this ample world,

Be infinitely good, and of his good

As liberal and free, as infinite. *Milton.*

There is no art better than to be liberal of praise and commendation to others, in that wherein a man's self hath any perfection. *Bacon's Essay.*

The liberal are secure alone;

For what we frankly give, for ever is our own. *Granville.*

Several clergymen, otherwise little fond of obscure terms, are, in their sermons, very liberal of all those which they find in ecclesiastical writers, as if it were our duty to understand them. *Swift.*

LIBERALITY. *n. f.* [liberalitas, Latin; liberalité, Fr.] Munificence; bounty; generosity; generous provision.

Why should he despair, that knows to court

With words, fair looks, and liberality? *Shakespeare.*

Such moderation with thy bounty join,

That thou may'st nothing give that is not thine;

That liberality is but cast away,

Which makes us borrow what we cannot pay. *Denham.*

LIBERALLY. *adv.* [from *liberal*.] Bounteously; bountifully; largely.

If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideneth not. *James i. 5.*

LI'BERTINE. *n. f.* [libertin, French.]

1. One unconfin'd; one at liberty.

When he speaks,

The air, a charter'd *libertine*, is still;

And the mute wonder lurketh in men's ears,

To steal his sweet and homed sentences. *Shakespeare's Hen. V.*

2. One who lives without restraint; or law.

Man, the lawless *libertine*, may rove

Free and unquestion'd.

Want of power is the only bound that a *libertine* puts to his views upon any of the sex. *Rousseau's Jane Shore.*

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2. One who pays no regard to the precepts of religion.

They say this town is full of couzenage,

As nimble jugglers, that deceive the eye;

Disguised cheaters, prating mountebanks,

And many such like *libertines* of sin. *Shakespeare.*

That word may be applied to some few *libertines* in the audience. *Collier's View of the Stage.*

3. [In law; *libertinus*, Lat.] A freedman; or rather, the son of a freedman.

Some persons are forbidden to be accusers on the score of their sex, as women; others on the score of their age, as pupils and infants; others on the score of their conditions, as *libertines* against their patrons. *Asyliff's Parergon.*

LI'BERTINE. *adj.* [libertin, French.] Licentious; irreligious.

There are men that marry not, but chuse rather a *libertine* and impure single life, than to be yoked in marriage. *Bacon.*

Might not the queen make diligent enquiry, if any person about her should happen to be of *libertine* principles or morals. *Swift's Project for Advancement of Religion.*

LI'BERTINISM. *n. f.* [from *libertine*.] Irreligion; licentiousness of opinions and practice.

That spirit of religion and seriousness vanished all at once, and a spirit of liberty and *libertinism*, of infidelity and profaneness, started up in the room of it. *Atterbury's Sermons.*

LI'BERTY. *n. f.* [liberté, French; libertas, Latin.]

1. Freedom, as opposed to slavery.

My master knows of your being here, and hath threatened to put me into everlasting *liberty*, if I tell you of it; for he swears, he'll turn me away. *Shakespeare.*

O *liberty*! thou goddess, heav'nly bright!

Profuse of blis, and pregnant with delight,

Eternal pleasures in thy preference reign. *Addison.*

2. Freedom, as opposed to necessity.

*Liberty* is the power in any agent to do, or forbear, any particular action, according to the determination, or thought of the mind, whereby either of them is preferred to the other. *Locke.*

As it is in the motions of the body, so it is in the thoughts of our minds: wheré any one is such, that we have power to take it up, or lay it by, according to the preference of the mind, there we are at *liberty*. *Locke.*

3. Privilege; exemption; immunity.

His majesty gave not an intire country to any, much less did he grant jura regalia, or any extraordinary *liberties*. *Davies.*

4. Relaxation of restraint.

5. Leave; permission.

I shall take the *liberty* to consider a third ground, which, with some men, has the same authority. *Locke.*

LI'BDINOUS. *n. f.* [libidinosus, Latin.] Lewd; lustful.

None revolt from the faith; because they must not look upon a woman to lust after her, but because they are much more restrained from the perpetration of their lusts. If wanton glances and *libidinous* thoughts had been permitted by the gospel, they would have apostatized nevertheless. *Bentley.*

LI'BDINOUSLY. *adv.* [from *libidinous*.] Lewdly; lustfully.

LI'BRAL. *adj.* [liberalis, Latin.] Of a pound weight. *Dict.*

LI'BRARIAN. *n. f.* [librarius, Latin.]

1. One who has the care of a library;

2. One who transcribes or copies books.

Charybdis thrice swallows, and thrice refunds, the waves: this must be understood of regular tides. There are indeed but two tides in a day, but this is the error of the *librarians*. *Broom's Notes on the Odyssey.*

LI'BRARY. *n. f.* [librarie, Fr.] A large collection of books, publick or private.

Then as they 'gan his library to view,

And antique registers for to avise,

There chanced to the prince's hand to rise

An ancient book, high Briton's monuments. *Fa. Qu.*

Make choice of all my library,

And so beguile thy sorrow. *Shakespeare's Titus Andronicus.*

I have given you the library of a painter, and a catalogue of such books as he ought to read. *Dryden's Dufresnoy.*

To LI'BRATE. *v. a.* [libre, Latin.] To poise; to balance; to hold in equipoise.

LI'BRATION. *n. f.* [libratio, Latin; libration, French.]

1. The state of being balanced.

This is what may be said of the balance, and the libration, of the body. *Dryden's Dufresnoy.*

Their plinions still

In loose libration stretch'd, to trust the void

Trembling refuse. *Thomson's Spring.*

2. [In astronomy.]

*Libration* is the balancing motion or trepidation in the firmament, whereby the declination of the sun, and the latitude of the stars, change from time to time. Astronomers likewise ascribe to the moon a *libratory* motion, or motion of trepidation, which they pretend is from east to west, and from north to south, because that, at full moon, they sometimes discover parts of her disk which are not discovered at

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other times. These kinds are called, the one a *libration* in longitude, and the other a *libration* in latitude. Besides this, there is a third kind, which they call an apparent *libration*, and which consists in this, that when the moon is at her greatest elongation from the south, her axis being then almost perpendicular to the plane of the ecliptick, the sun must enlighten towards the north pole of the moon some parts which he did not before, and that, on the contrary, some parts of those which he enlightened towards the opposite pole are obscured; and this produces the same effect which the *libration* in latitude does. *Dict. Trev.*

Those planets which move upon their axis, do not all make intire revolutions; for the moon maketh only a kind of *libration*, or a reciprocated motion on her own axis. *Grew.*

LI'BRATORY. *adj.* [from *libre*, Lat.] Balancing; playing like a balance.

LICE, the plural of *louse*.

Red blisters rising on their paps appear,

And flaming carbuncles, and noisome sweat,

And clammy dews, that loathsome *lice* beget;

Till the slow creeping evil eats his way. *Dryden's Virg.*

LI'CEBAKE. *n. f.* [lice and bane.] A plant.

LICENCE. *n. f.* [licentia, Latin; licence, French.]

1. Exorbitant liberty; contempt of legal and necessary restraint.

Some of the wiser seeing that a popular *licence* is indeed the many-headed tyranny, prevailed with the rest to make Mufidorus their chief. *Sidney.*

2. A grant of permission.

They sent some to bring them a *licence* from the senate. *Judith xi. 14.*

Those few abstract names that the schools forged, and put into the mouths of their scholars, could never yet get admittance into common use, or obtain the *licence* of publick approbation. *Locke.*

3. Liberty; permission.

We procured a *licence* of the duke of Parma to enter the theatre and gallery. *Addison on Italy.*

It is not the manner of the Romans to deliver any man to die, before that he which is accused have the accusers face to face, and have *licence* to answer for himself. *Atty.*

To LI'CEUSE. *v. a.* [licencier, French.]

1. To set at liberty.

He would play well, and willingly, at some games of greatest attention, which shewed, that when he listed he could *license* his thoughts. *Wotton.*

2. To permit by a legal grant.

Wit's titans brav'd the skies,